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**SEP 17 2007**

Application No: 10/506,761  
Amendment A  
Reply to Office Action Dated 06/26/2007

Attorney Docket No: 3926.103

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The following listing of claims replaces any earlier listing:

1. (Currently Amended) A vehicle having an internal combustion engine and an axle carrier on which the engine is mounted, wherein the axle carrier (1) has on its top side (4) at least one protective lining (5), and wherein the lining (5) is a material with heat-insulating properties.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) The vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the material of the lining (5) has sound-insulating properties.
4. (Previously Presented) The vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the material of the lining (5) comprises an elastomer-modified thermoplastic.
5. (Previously Presented) The vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the material of the lining (5) comprises two interconnected plastics, the one plastic exhibiting sound-insulating properties and the other plastic exhibiting heat-insulating properties.
6. (Previously Presented) The vehicle as claimed in claim 5, wherein the plastic having the heat-insulating properties is disposed above the plastic having the sound-insulating properties.

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7. (Currently Amended) The vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~wherein~~ the lining (5) covers a track control arm opening (10) in the axle carrier.
8. (Currently Amended) The vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~wherein~~ the lining (5) covers a spring control arm opening (11) in the axle carrier (1).
9. (Currently Amended) The vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~wherein~~ the lining (5) covers an interspace (12) between the axle carrier (1) and a longitudinal member of the vehicle to which the axle carrier (1) is fastened.
10. (Previously Presented) The vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the lining covers a bearing (13) of the axle carrier (1) for an axle stabilizer.
11. (Currently Amended) The vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the linings (5) of ~~the~~ individual cover points are joined together in one piece.
12. (Currently Amended) The vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ two longitudinal sides (3) of the axle carrier (1), extending parallel to ~~the~~ a vehicle longitudinal axis, are fully covered by the lining (5), with the exception of ~~the~~ fastening points (8) for fastening to ~~the~~ a longitudinal member and ~~the~~ an engine mount (2).
13. (Currently Amended) The vehicle as claimed in claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ two lining portions covering the two longitudinal sides (3) of the axle carrier (1) are joined together in such a way that they form a single component, ~~the~~ connecting portions of the lining portions fully covering ~~the~~ transverse bridges (9) of the axle carrier (1), which join ~~to~~ the longitudinal sides (3).

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14. (Currently Amended) The vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the lining (5), with the exception of the fastening points (6) for fastening the lining (5) to the axle carrier (1), is distanced from the latter by an air gap (14).
15. (Previously Presented) The vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the lining (5) is formed by a coating of the axle carrier (1).
16. (Previously Presented) The vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the lining (5) is of skin-like configuration conforming to the contour of the top side (4) of the axle carrier (1).
17. (Previously Presented) The vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein air chambers are formed on the top side of the lining (5).
18. (Previously Presented) The vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein at points of covered openings (10, 11) in the axle carrier (1), on a circular surface, the lining (5) is provided with diametrical slots (15), with slotted leaves (16) which are hereupon formed being of resiliently elastic configuration.
19. (Previously Presented) The vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the material of the lining (5) comprises polyamide or polyurethane.

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